

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method for processing sheet material in different successively processed groups, comprising the following method steps:

separating the different groups of sheet material, and
processing the separate groups of sheet material,

wherein a separator card is used for separating the different groups of sheet material, and at least one information carrier is used for processing the different groups of sheet material, the separator card and the at least one information carrier being separate from one another.

2. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one information carrier is inserted at any points within the different groups of sheet material.

3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the separator card is inserted at the beginning of each different group of sheet material, and the at least one information carrier is inserted at the end of each different group of sheet material.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 or 3, wherein subgroups of sheet material are formed by using a plurality of information carriers within a group of sheet material.

5. (Previously presented) A method according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 3, wherein the separator card and the at least one information carrier are brought together with the groups of sheet material at different places.

6. (Previously presented) A method according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 3, wherein a deliverer of one or more groups of sheet material provides the at least one information carrier with information.

7. (Previously presented) Means for separating and processing different groups of sheet material in a sheet processing device, the means comprising;

at least one separator card arranged to provide an indication of a separate group of sheet material to the sheet processing device; and

at least one information carrier arranged to provide information to the sheet processing device concerning a group of sheet material;

wherein the at least one separator card and the at least one information carrier are separate from one another.

8. (Previously presented) Means according to claim 7, wherein the separator card and/or the at least one information carrier are coded.

9. (Previously presented) Means according to claim 8, wherein the coding of the separator card and/or the at least one information carrier comprise a magnetic and/or optical and/or electric and/or electronic coding.

10. (Previously presented) Means according to one of claims 7 to 9, wherein the at least one information carrier is formed by part of the sheet material.

11. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 4, wherein the separator card and the at least one information carrier are brought together with the groups of sheet material at different places.

Application No.: 09/718,473
Examiner: K. NGUYEN
Art Unit: 2876

12. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 4, wherein a deliverer of one or more groups of sheet material provides the information carrier with information.

13. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein a deliverer of one or more groups of sheet material provides the at least one information carrier with information.